

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the careful consideration provided by the Examiner in the Office Action mailed September 9, 2007. The status of each claim in the present submission is as follows: claims 1 and 13 are currently amended, claims 2, 4-7, and 9-10 are previously presented, and claim 8 is original. Claims 3 and 11-12 are canceled, so therefore claims 1-2, 4-10, and 13 are pending.

On page 9, the Action objects to claim 12 as being dependent on upon a rejected base, but indicates that the claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Further to this indication, Applicants have amended claim 1 so as to include the features of claims 11-12. Applicants respectfully assert that this claim is now in condition for allowance. Further, claims 2, 4-10, and 13 directly or indirectly depend from claim 1. Applicants submit that these claims are also allowable for at least their dependency from claim 1 and/or for the further features claimed therein.

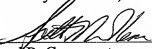
Conclusion

Applicants respectfully solicit a notice of allowability. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact James M. Alpert, Reg. No. 59,926 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: **December 3, 2007**

Respectfully submitted,

By  #37,250
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